ON THE SYSTEMATIC POSITION OF TWO GENERA ERRONEOUSLY PLACED IN THE FAMILY TORTRICIDAE (LEPIDOPTERA)

By Nicholas S. Obraztsov[1]

Syncamaris Meyrick

Type species: *Syncamaris argophthalma* Meyrick, 1932.

Syncamaris Meyrick, 1932, Exotic Microlepidoptera **4**, p. 262.

From the Museum of Natural History (Naturwissenschaftliches Museum) in Vienna, the present author received some material for examination, among it three male specimens of *Syncamaris argophthalma* Meyrick (plate I, figures 1 and 2), the type species of the monobasic genus *Syncamaris* which Meyrick described as a member of the family Tortricidae. All these specimens are labeled as collected by F. Hoffmann in Santa Catharina, New Bremen, Brazil. Two of them were recorded on June 12, 1931, and one on August 9, 1936. In the original description of this species Meyrick mentioned only one specimen, and this was probably that one taken on June 12, 1931, of the received series, which has an identification label by Meyrick. This specimen should be considered to be the type. The examined material gives an opportunity to publish some additional data about the genus *Syncamaris,* and to ascertain its systematic position.

The original description of the genus *Syncamaris* is quite accurate. It reads: "Antennae ♂ ciliated. Palpi moderately long, obliquely ascending, second joint thickened with loosely appressed scales, terminal joint short, obtuse. Thorax smooth. Forewings 2 from ¾, 3 from before angle, 4 and 5 approximated at base, 7–9 approximated at base, 7 to below apex. Hindwings with loose cubital pecten; 3 and 4 nearly approximated at base, 5 parallel, 6 and 7 nearly connate, 8 closely approximated to cell to beyond origin of 7." The details of the wing venation are seen from a drawing made by the present author (figure 1). In addition to the characters mentioned in the original description, it

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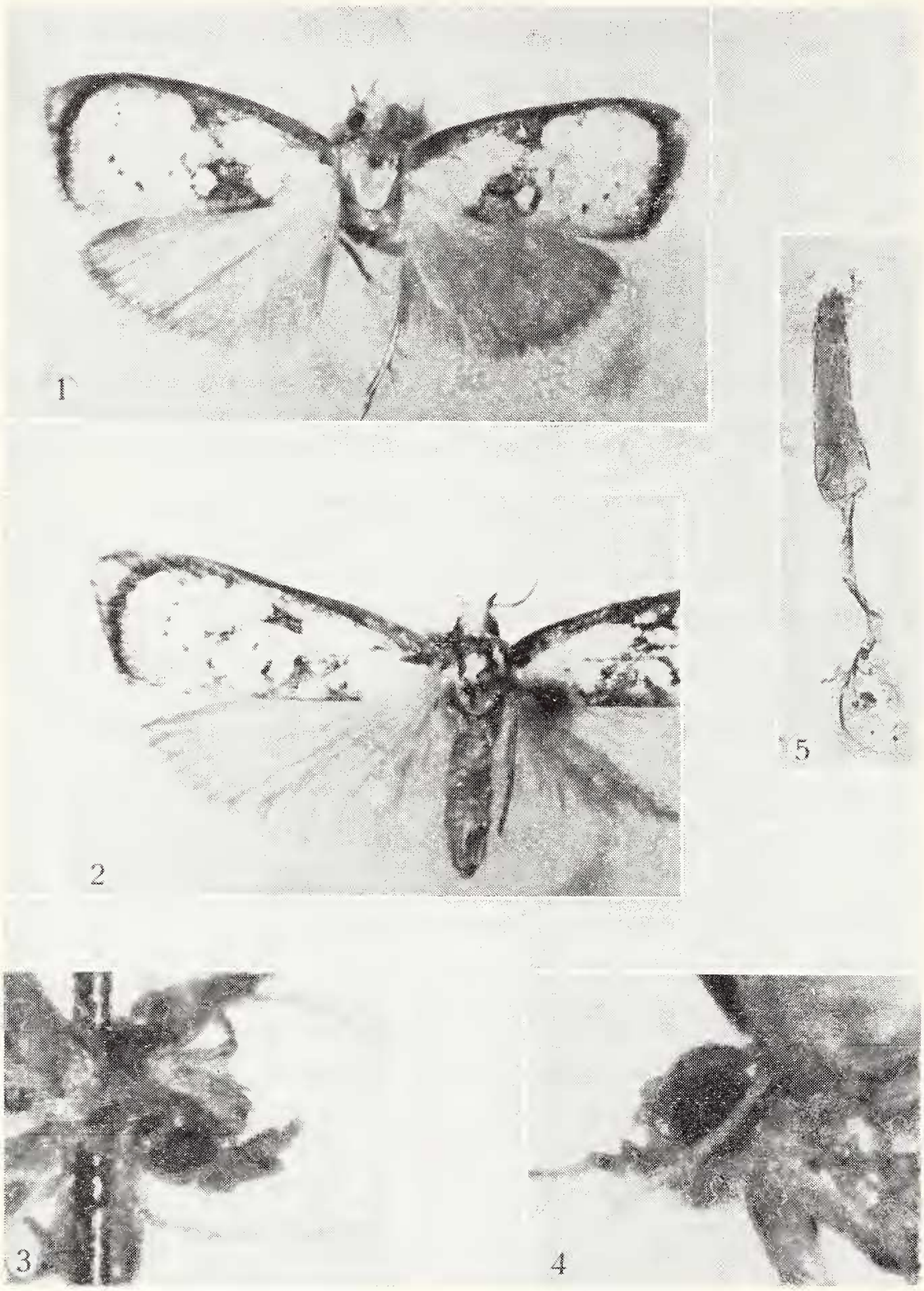
(JOUR. N. Y. ENT. SOC.), VOL. LXVIII (PLATE I)



Explanation of Plate I

Syncamaris argophthalma Meyrick

1. Male, type.
2. Another male (recorded on August 9, 1936).

3 and 4. Head of the type specimen.

5. Aedoeagus of the type specimen.

should be said that the head (plate I, figures 3 and 4) is loosely appressed scaled, the antennae very slightly serrated, the legs are smooth except for the fore femora which are long pectinated along their lower edge. On the hind wings, besides a long cubital pecten, there is another one at the base of the vein A_2.

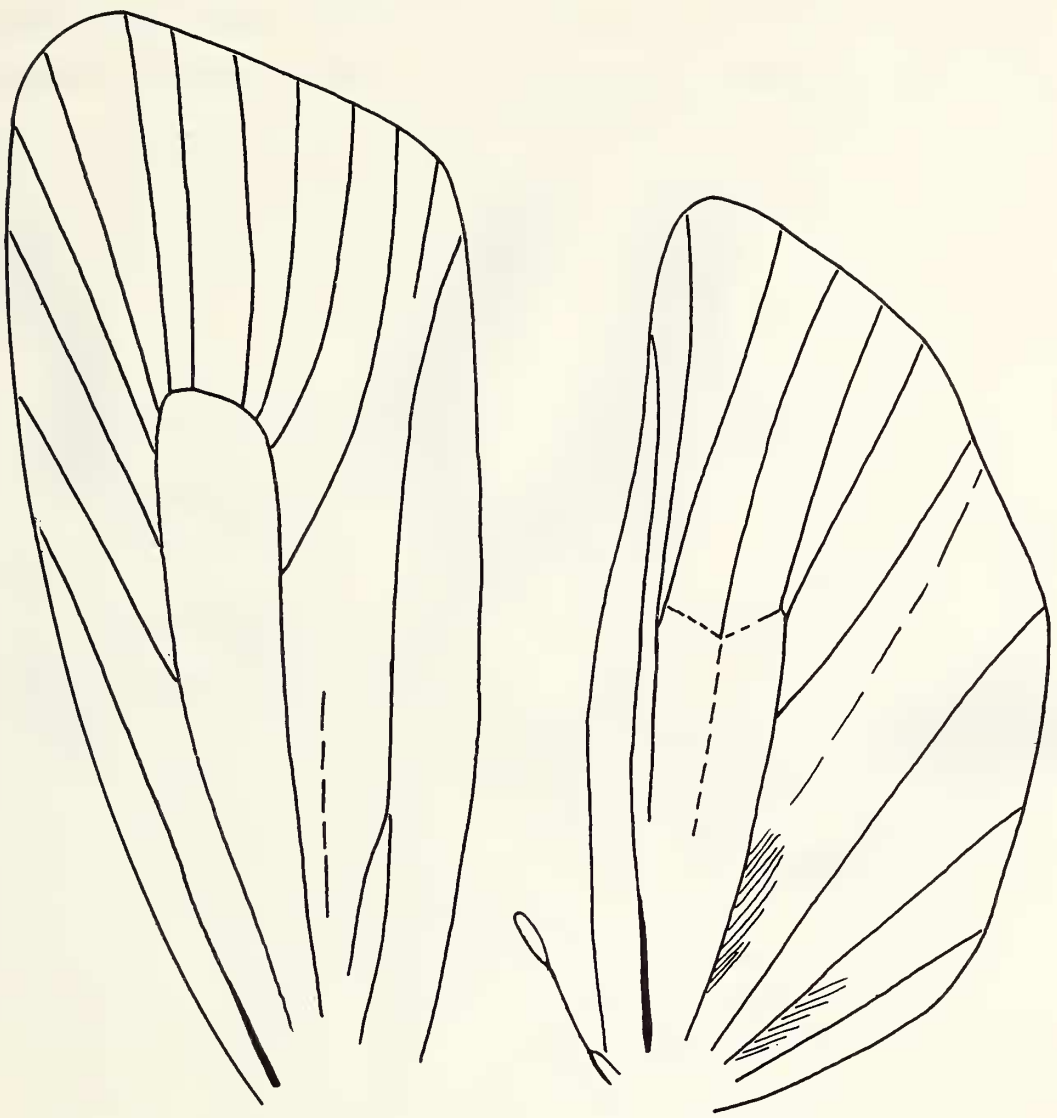


Fig. 1. Wing venation of *Syncamaris argophthalma* Meyrick.

Very peculiar, and not mentioned by Meyrick, is a frenulum thickened at the tip. A similar capitate frenulum has previously been observed in two other genera, *Neophylarcha* Meyrick and *Rhopalosetia* Meyrick, both from French Guiana. According to Clarke (1955, Catalogue of the type specimens of Microlepidoptera in the British Museum described by Edward Meyrick; **2**, pp. 523 and 531), these two genera belong to the family Copromorphidae. The genus *Syncamaris* should probably have been placed near these genera.

Besides a capitate frenulum, all three of the above genera

have another character distinguishing them from the remaining Copromorphidae, namely an obtuse terminal joint of the labial palpi, and perhaps deserve separation as a new family. It is, however, untimely to establish this family for three genera, since Copromorphidae include also many other genera of unascertained relationship, and need a detailed and careful revision. Until this revision is done, it seems better to place the genus *Syncamaris* in the family Copromorphidae.

FIG. 2. Male genitalia of *Syncamaris argophthalma* Meyrick (type).

The male genitalia of *Syncamaris argophthalma* (figure 2) are not quite similar to those known in the Copromorphidae genera. The valvae of this species are firmly joined along their inner edges to the vinculum, and the lower edges of the sacculi are connected to the saccus. To make a proper mounting of the genitalia on a slide, one of the valvae (the right on the present slide) should be cut away from the vinculum. The vinculum

(including the tegumen) is rather narrow and joined ventrad to a very large saccus. No uncus is present. On the dorsal surface of the anal tube there are two longitudinal folds leading to two weak, haired pads. This whole area could probably be included with the scaphium. No gnathos and fultura superior are present. The fultura inferior is entirely membranous. The valvae are bipartite, and each consists of a broad, haired, lancet-shaped sacculus and a narrow, bent valvula with a slightly dilated cucullus. The aedoeagus (plate I, figure 5) is slender and is joined to the fultura inferior by the tip. There are no cornuti. The entire genitalia are very weakly sclerotized.

Tapinodoxa Meyrick

Type species: *Tapinodoxa autonephes* Meyrick, 1931.

Tapinodoxa Meyrick, 1931, Exotic Microlepidoptera. **4,** p. 154.

This monobasic genus was established for a new species from Paraguay, known to its author in three specimens. Meyrick believed that all of the above specimens of his *Tapinodoxa autonephes* were males, but the two specimens, which the present author received for examination from the Museum of Natural History in Vienna and which were sent to him as belonging to the original series, appeared to be females. Both of them are dated "Paraguay, Asuncion, F. Schade, 1920–21," and have red labels reading "Type." Only one of these specimens has an identification label in Meyrick's handwriting, and it is therefore advisable to select it as lectotype.

Writing about the sex of the above specimens, Meyrick was probably confused by the frenulum which in the female of *T. autonephes* consists of a single bristle. He also described the proboscis as being absent. As a point of fact it is present, although it is rudimentary. Meyrick wrote that the thorax of *T. autonephes* is smooth, but in a specimen in better condition the present author observed a distinct posterior crest of the thorax (the pin goes through its middle). In the other specimen the scales of the thorax are completely rubbed off. A further mistake of Meyrick was to assert that the forewing vein Cu_1 (= 3) arises from near the cell angle. In both specimens of the Vienna Museum this vein originates directly from the lower angle of the middle cell, and is closely approximated to the vein

M_3 (= 4). The vein Cu_2 originates at about four-fifths of the middle cell. Since the two specimens examined by the present author were females, it was impossible to prove if any costal fold is present in the male of *Tapinodoxa*. Therefore, the absence of a costal fold in the male, mentioned by Meyrick as one of the morphological characters of this genus, should be considered as unproven.

Some further characters of the genus *Tapinodoxa* deserve to be mentioned. The vein R_1 (= 11) of the forewing originates at the middle of the middle cell, and is very remote from R_2 (= 10) at base, although both of these veins are closely approximated and parallel to each other on their way to the costa. The vein A_1 is developed as a fold not reaching the tornus. The forewing vein A_{2+3} (= 1) and Cu_2 (= 2) are approximated to each other at the tornus. These characters are recognized as typical of the family Phaloniidae, and the present author is inclined to place *Tapinodoxa* in this family. The female genitalia of *T. autonephes* with their large ostium bursae developing gradually into the corpus bursae also remind one of this family.

A detailed description of the genus *Tapinodoxa* and determination of its systematic position in this family will probably be made by some future investigator of the neotropical Phaloniidae. The purpose of the present note, done in connection with a revision of the genera of the Tortricidae, is to show that *Tapinodoxa* does not belong to this family.

The author wishes to acknowledge with thanks the cooperation of Dr. R. Schönmann of the Vienna Museum of Natural History who sent him the material on the genera discussed in the present paper.